

COMBINED ELECTRICAL AND OPTICAL CABLE CONNECTOR PARTICULARLY SUITED FOR MARINE SEISMIC SENSOR STREAMERS

Abstract

A connector is disclosed for joining two cable ends. The connector includes a load transfer plug adapted to couple to a strength member in each end of the cable. A connector insert assembly is coupled to an inner portion of each load transfer plug. Conductor terminals are disposed in corresponding openings of the insert. The terminals protrude from the insert. An alignment sleeve holder is coupled to one of the insert assemblies. The alignment sleeve holder includes alignment sleeves for receiving the protruding terminals. A housing element is sealingly coupled to an exterior of each of the plugs. The housing elements are adapted to be coupled to each other and to urge the connector insert assemblies into contact with each other, and to transfer axial load between the plug coupled to each end of the cable. The housing elements have rotational and axial alignment features on corresponding surfaces. The housing elements are adapted to be removed from the plugs without uncoupling the cable from the plug.